

Thus, unfortunately, I must object to any consideration of these nominees. My objection is not intended to question the credentials of Ms. Greenfeld and Mr. Schroeder in any way. The executive branch must recognize that it has an ongoing obligation to respond to congressional inquiries in a timely and reasonable manner.

EQUAL JUSTICE INITIATIVE'S COMMUNITY REMEMBRANCE PROJECT

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize the installation of a historical marker in the Good Hope Missionary Baptist Church yard on August 1, 2021, that will memorialize the life and death of three citizens who were lynched in 1908. This month, my constituent, Ms. Joyce Salter Johnson, will travel with friends and family from Wisconsin to Mississippi to honor her relative Frank Johnson, as one of those three men who were violently murdered in Hickory, MS.

This historical marker is part of the important work being done by the Equal Justice Initiative in honoring and memorializing lives lost to racial violence in this country through its Community Remembrance Project. With its mission to end mass incarceration and excessive punishment in the United States, challenge racial and economic injustice, and protect basic human rights for the most vulnerable, the Equal Justice Initiative has been working to expose the truth, advocate for change, and create hope for historically marginalized communities. Lawyer and author Bryan Stevenson founded Equal Justice Initiative in 1989, and since then, it has grown to an organization of robust projects, hands-on education, and publically accessible museums and memorials. In April of 2018, following in the footsteps of the late Dr. James Cameron of Milwaukee's Black Holocaust Museum in my home State of Wisconsin, the Equal Justice Initiative—EJI—opened America's first national memorial dedicated to victims of racial terror lynching and a new museum dedicated to slavery and its legacy was opened in Montgomery, AL.

EJI's Community Remembrance Project partners with community coalitions to do extensive research of documented victims of racial violence. EJI fosters critical conversations about our history and race and justice today. The Community Remembrance Project memorializes documented victims of racial violence and its Community Soil Collection Project gathers soil at lynching sites for display in powerful exhibits honoring these victims. Narrative historical markers are erected in public locations where violence took place.

My constituent, Wisconsin resident Joyce Salter Johnson, is a historian whose third book provides a well-researched history of the Freedmen Settlement of Good Hope, MS, where she

lived until the age of 10. Thus, prior to EJI's documentation, she knew the terrible sequence of events that led to the October 10, 1908, lynching of her relative, Mr. Frank Johnson, and the two others. Given her knowledge, research skills, and inclinations, she was well-suited to take leadership among the coalition members working on the Community Remembrance Project for these men, and for that, I am thankful.

I commend the work of the Equal Justice Initiative and all who help further the Community Remembrance Project's mission of confronting the legacy of slavery, lynching, and segregation and charting a better future. And I extend my solidarity to Ms. Johnson and her family and friends on their personal journey of remembrance and memorial.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING BIRD DOGS COFFEE

• Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, as ranking member of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I recognize an outstanding Kentucky small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit. This week, it is my privilege to recognize Bird Dogs Coffee, a family-owned small business in Owenton, KY, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

Located in the heart of Owenton, Kasey Craigmyle Towles opened Bird Dogs Coffee in 2015. Kasey, who grew up in Owenton and was the founder and operator of "Kasey's Corner," a successful gift shop, decided to pursue a different business venture that would uplift her hometown and foster a sense of community. When Bird Dogs Coffee opened its door, Kasey and her husband, Randy, were seizing the opportunity to fill a gap in the Owenton market since there was not a coffee shop in town. Together, Kasey and Randy created a welcoming cafe with delicious food, friendly service, and a hospitable atmosphere.

Today, Bird Dogs Coffee has become a local favorite and has consistently received high praise and glowing reviews in local and regional publications for its outstanding service and homemade cuisine. Bird Dogs Coffee welcomes customers from all over northern Kentucky by providing a place for both locals and travelers to catch up over a cup of coffee. Kasey and Randy host a number of events at their coffee shop, including live music and wine and beer tastings. Moreover, Bird Dogs Coffee provides a meeting space for local organizations like the Owenton Rotary Club. Entrepreneurs at heart, Kasey and Randy have continued seeking ways to grow their business while serving their community. They have purchased buildings next to Bird Dogs Coffee's original location and plan to open an event space and expanded gift shop to meet the needs of their hometown.

Like many small business owners, Kasey and Randy are actively involved in their community. Bird Dogs Coffee is a member of the Owen County Chamber of Commerce and is an enthusiastic supporter of the Owen County Tourism Commission. For several years, Bird Dogs Coffee has sponsored Owen County School District sports teams and contributed to multiple fundraisers for local organizations. Additionally, Kasey and Randy regularly donate to Owen County Project Graduation, which provides an alcohol- and drug-free graduation celebration for local high school seniors. With Owen County High being close to their hearts, Kasey and Randy are also actively involved with the Owen County High School Alumni Association.

Bird Dogs Coffee is a remarkable example of how hard work, ingenuity, and discipline can turn a dream into reality. Small businesses like Bird Dogs Coffee form the heart of towns across Kentucky, regularly stepping up to support their communities. Congratulations to Kasey, Randy, and the entire team at Bird Dogs Coffee. I wish Bird Dogs Coffee the best of luck and look forward to watching this small business's continued growth and success in Kentucky. •

REMEMBERING DAVID MERMELSTEIN

• Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, I rise today to commemorate the life and legacy of David Mermelstein.

David was born in Kevjazz, Czechoslovakia, on December 21, 1928. In 1944, at just 16 years old, David was sent to the Nazi concentration camp at Auschwitz until the American liberation of the camp in 1945. He was the only member of his family to survive the Holocaust. David lost everything, including documentation of his family's insurance policy. After 2 years in a displaced persons camp, David came to the United States in 1948. He met his wife, Irene, who is also a Holocaust survivor, in New York. Together, they decided to move to Miami, FL, where they made a lifelong home.

David devoted his life to serving the south Florida Jewish community, assuming leadership roles in many organizations. He was passionate about educating our children about the Holocaust. He founded the Holocaust Survivors of Miami-Dade County, becoming a national advocate for survivors and testifying before Congress on their behalf on the need for restitution to obtain the most equitable compensation possible for the survivors.

David lived through unspeakable horror and dedicated his life to educating and inspiring those around him. Our memory of all those who suffered must never weaken, and we must always fight against hate.

David was beloved by all who knew him. He was a fierce advocate and an inspiration to all who heard his story. David exemplified what it means to